

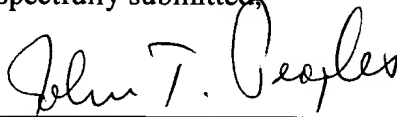
REMARKS

All of the original claims 1-3 have been cancelled, and replaced with claims 4-18 to ensure that the Applicant sets forth with particularity what the Applicant regards as his invention.

Accordingly, substantially all of the Summary of Invention (from line 10 on page 5 to line 6 on page 6) has been replaced to be commensurate with the newly-added claims.

Finally, typographical errors and clarifications that secure correspondence among the specification, the figures, and the claims have been incorporated into the Preliminary Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Specification:

Page 1, lines 10-11 has been amended as follows: --The invention relates to methods for efficiently routing a packet in ~~an interconnection network of routers and switches~~ a packet switching network and, more particularly, for providing--

Page 2, line 15 has been amended as follows: --~~consisting which is an interconnection network~~ of a number of packet switches. Packet switches in the network are called--

Page 10, line 20 has been amended as follows: --logical in-band control switching fabric. Therefore, a single in-band control switching fabric can be constructed by the interconnection of switching fabrics in all nodes by the inter-node links.--

Page 11, line 7 has been amended as follows: -- typical transmission bandwidth over an electrical wire ~~in~~ is typically only megabits per--

Page 14, line 22 has been amended as follows: --of $N-n$ times the length of a short in-band control signal is appended at the end.--

Page 15, line 11 has been amended as follows: --is $N-1$ times the normal length of an in-band control signal.--

Page 15, lines 18-20 has been amended as follows: -- networks with large values in N . ~~This section adapts the new source-routing scheme of Section 1 into a new hop-by-hop routing scheme, where the overhead in cell formatting is independent of N .~~ This section presents another source-routing scheme, referred to as new hop-by-hop routing scheme, which is a modified version of the new source-routing scheme as presented in Section 1, where the overhead in cell formatting is independent of N . Note that the

naming of this modified routing scheme as “hop-by-hop” has no relation with the “hop-by-hop routing” mentioned in the Background section, it just serves to differentiate the modified scheme with the scheme in Section 1 that the former has the characteristics of using a simple table-lookup in every hop on the route.--

Page 17, lines 7-10 has been amended as follows: --Else, the small packet-forwarding table ~~also~~ maps the route tag to the in-band control signal for guiding the cell through the local switching fabric ~~and a new route tag (for the use by the subsequent node on the route)~~. The small packet-forwarding table may also map the route tag to a new route tag for the use by the subsequent node on the route, unless the route tag is not modified through the route as in the example of using an identifier of the egress node as the route tag. The cell format before entering the switching fabric becomes as in FIG. 8A.--

Page 18, line 9 has been amended as follows: --the switching control over the local switching fabric and possibly a new route tag--



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